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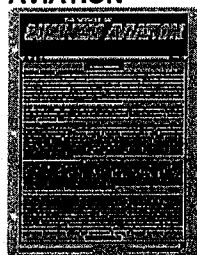
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Business Aviation 101

BA Weekly: New Bill Proposed To Allot \$1 Billion in Aeronautics R&D

By Angela Kim/Weekly of Business Aviation

06-May-2002 10:35 AM U.S. EDT

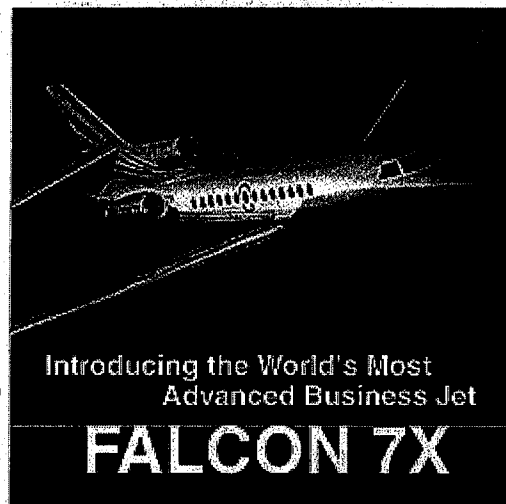
AVIATION WEEK'S THE WEEKLY OF BUSINESS AVIATION A wide-reaching bill introduced in the House of Representatives last week would authorize \$1.15 billion in aeronautics research and development in the next five years to compete against a recent unified European investment in the industry.

The Aeronautics Research and Redevelopment Act, sponsored by Rep. John B. Larson (D-Conn.) with 19 co-sponsors, is an initiative "to energize America's aeronautics and aviation industry to counteract the dramatic decline in U.S. research and development spending as well as to meet the challenge of European Union efforts to win global leadership in the industry," said Larson.

American market share in the world aerospace market has dropped to 50 percent from 70 percent in 1985 and the U.S. has cut aeronautics spending by half in the past 20 years, Larson said. Additionally, the Bush Administration's budget for next year proposes to further cut aeronautics research by \$58 million at NASA and \$20 million at FAA. In contrast, the European Union in January 2001 launched a \$93 billion, 20-year agenda, "The European Aeronautics: A Vision for 2020."

The bill would reverse the trend of declining federal investments and double R&D funding in the next five years, raising it to pre-1998 levels, Larson said.

The money, if approved, would go toward supporting NASA and FAA research goals. It would support the re-establishment of an Office of Aeronautics at NASA, development of no-noise, low-emissions, high-efficiency commercial engines and additional rotorcraft and supersonic transport



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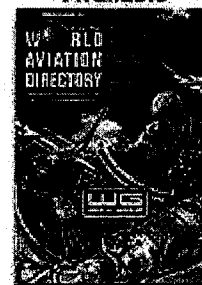
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research. The bill also proposes to invest more in academic programs in the form of professional training and scholarships to draw more students to aeronautical engineering.

Larson said the bill has received bipartisan support from House members and hopes that it will be attached to the House Science Committee's authorization bill, which would increase its chances of approval.

On the Senate side, Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.), chairman of the Commerce aviation subcommittee, has shown strong interest in the bill, Larson said.

The proposed legislation also received support from industry leaders. "The bill tracks a number of longstanding Aerospace Industries Association recommendations with respect to federal investment in aeronautics R&D," said John W. Douglass, AIA president and CEO.

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